

Study Conclusion

Fur mite real-time PCR is a more sensitive diagnostic test for antemortem screening for fur mite infestations based on IDEXX BioResearch study.

Goal Determine optimal approach for fur mite screening by comparing the traditional Fur Pluck to real-time PCR

Study Designs

Mice infested with *Myobia* & *Myocoptes*

- Housed 2 per cage in 5 cages

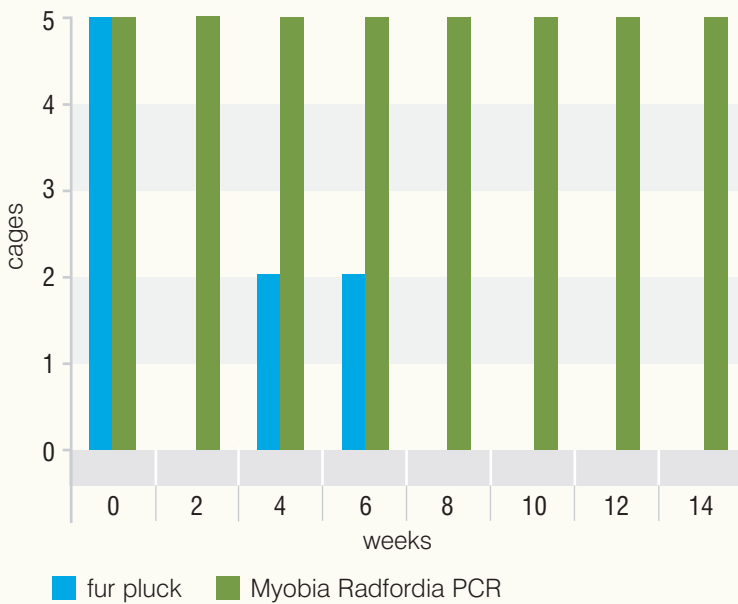
Samples collected every 2 weeks for 14 weeks

- Fur pluck exam to identify mites & ova
- Fur swabs collected for *Myobia* & *Myocoptes*

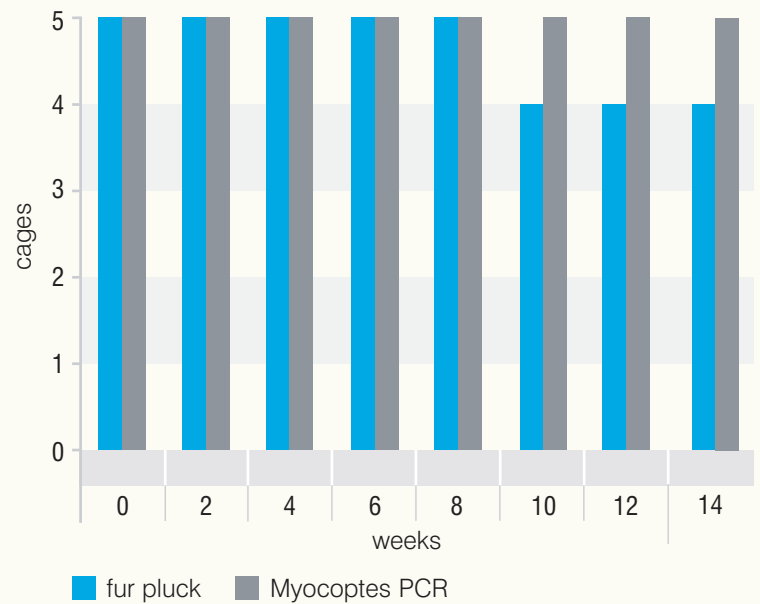
Postmortem exam of pelts at the end of the study confirmed infestations of both mites in all mice

Results

Fur Pluck vs PCR for Detection of *Myobia*



Fur Pluck vs PCR for Detection of *Myocoptes*



Real-time PCR reliably detected *Myobia* and *Myocoptes* DNA in all samples. The traditional fur pluck failed to detect *Myobia* at most time points

- *Myocoptes* found on rump and belly – fur easily plucked from these sites
- *Myobia* found on head – harder to pluck fur from the head

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